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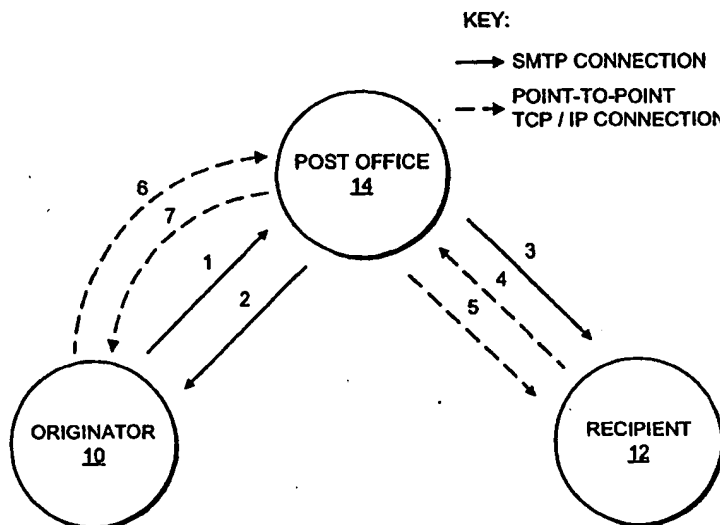
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| (21) International Application Number: PCT/GB99/03140 (22) International Filing Date: 21 September 1999 (21.09.99) (30) Priority Data: 9820558.6 21 September 1998 (21.09.98) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE POST OFFICE [GB/GB]; Royal Mail House, 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ (GB). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): PERKINS, Rodney [GB/GB]; 11 Pennine View, Heage, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 2TE (GB). (74) Agents: KINSLER, Maureen, Catherine et al.; Kilburn & Strode, 20 Red Lion Street, London WC1R 4PJ (GB). | | (81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report. | |

(54) Title: A SECURE DATA TRANSFER SYSTEM

(57) Abstract

A data transfer system comprises a sender, receiver and a key facility. The sender encrypts data and splits it into parts. One part is further encrypted for a key facility. The parts are sent to the receiver. The receiver requests decryption of the part encrypted for the key facility and the receiver is then able to decrypt the complete data.

SECURE COURIER WITH POST MARKING



- 1: MESSAGE SENT FROM POST OFFICE
- 2: POST OFFICE RETURNS PROOF-OF-SUBMISSION
- 3: POST OFFICE DELIVERS MESSAGE
- 4: RECIPIENT REQUESTS THE KEY TO DECIPHER THE MESSAGE
- 5: POST OFFICE LOGS THE REQUEST AND RETURNS THE KEY
- 6: ORIGINATOR QUERIES THE STATUS OF THE MESSAGE
- 7: POST OFFICE RETURNS RESPONSE TO THE ORIGINATORS' QUERY